



News Release

For immediate release: November 20, 2012

(12-169)

Contact: Media inquiries: [Sharon Moysiuk](#), Communications Office
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4074
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and licensed practical nurse **Aaron Marshall** (RN60154660, LP60110947) with unprofessional conduct. Marshall allegedly tested positive for amphetamines and methamphetamines during a workplace drug test.

Clark County

In October 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Amy Raelynne Ross**, also known as Amy Raelynne Comella (NA60277569), with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly tested positive for marijuana during a workplace drug test. She also admitted to using marijuana recreationally.

Cowlitz County

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Thomas C. Lewis** (RN00096014) with unprofessional conduct. Lewis allegedly didn't document administration or wastage of controlled substances and other drugs on several occasions. He also allegedly gave morphine to a patient when the patient's prescription was for hydromorphone.

Jefferson County

In October 2012 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Keith David Meyer** (CH60131354) with unprofessional conduct. Meyer allegedly didn't examine a patient appropriately before manipulating her and didn't give adequate instruction for post-treatment. The inadequate examination and instructions allegedly delayed proper medical treatment for a stroke.

King County

In September 2012 the Pharmacy Board denied the pharmacy assistant credential of **Paul Alan Dunaway** (VB60239856). Dunaway was convicted of driving under the influence in 2000 and 2011, and driving with a suspended license in 2002.

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Linda Sue Rowan** (RN00099142) with unprofessional conduct. Rowan allegedly reported to work while under the influence of alcohol and continued to drink alcohol while on duty. She also allegedly didn't comply with the terms of her substance abuse monitoring contract.

In October 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program reinstated the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Keith R. Sellers** (CO60147339). Sellers must comply with terms and conditions including participation in a substance abuse monitoring program.

Kittitas County

In October 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program reinstated the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kibra Sharlene Baldwin** (CO60155320) with conditions that include participating in a substance abuse monitoring program.

Kitsap County

In October 2012 the Medical Commission placed the license of physician **Susan J. Eagan** (MD00049436) on probation. Conditions of her probation include maintaining proper boundaries with patients.

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Steven E. Lickar** (RN00083021). Lickar, who practiced with an expired license for more than a year, must take pre-approved continuing education courses in the areas of ethics, time management, and maintaining licensure.

Kittitas County

In October 2012 the Counselor Program granted the credential of agency affiliated counselor **Sarah Jeanne Baxter** (CG60306893) and placed it on probation for at least two years. Terms of her probation include participating in a substance abuse monitoring program.

In October 2012 the Counselor Program ended the probation order against certified counselor **Jorge Ruiz Chacon** (CL60173043).

Klickitat County

In October 2012 the Medical Commission charged physician assistant **David J. Tuning** (PA10001203) with unprofessional conduct. Tuning allegedly had a sexual relationship with a patient.

Lewis County

In September 2012 the Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program charged paramedic **Marla Fleming-Nixon** (ES00122562) with unprofessional conduct. Nixon allegedly gave patients more morphine than a paramedic can administer without additional authorization on eight occasions. She also allegedly falsified paperwork having to do with controlled substance disposal/wastage on four occasions.

Pierce County

In October 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Pamela M. Blakey** (NC10030357) with unprofessional conduct. Blakey allegedly slapped an 87-year-old patient on the mouth three times. The Department of Social and Health Services issued a final finding that Blakey physically abused a vulnerable adult and can no longer be employed in a position that allows unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Mary J. Davis** (LP00056245) with unprofessional conduct. Davis allegedly didn't comply with a previous stipulation.

In September 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Joanne Gigi Hardtke** (RN00127795, AP30006122-AP) with unprofessional conduct. Hardtke allegedly provided substandard care by not noting or treating a fragile patient's abscess and skin conditions.

In October 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Jennifer Hellums** (NC10069991) with unprofessional conduct. Hellums allegedly didn't comply with a previous order.

In October 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Juwana R. Tumblin** (NA60204999, NC10099285) with unprofessional

conduct. Tumblin allegedly stole several jewelry pieces from three residents at the assisted living facility where she worked, and then pawned the pieces. She was charged with theft and trafficking in stolen property for the conduct.

Spokane County

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **John V. Billings** (RN00127908, AP30004240-PSYC) with unprofessional conduct. Billings allegedly provided substandard care to nine patients and placed them at risk of harm. He also allegedly practiced outside of his scope, failed to keep proper patient records, and prescribed medications to several patients without examining them and establishing a patient/provider relationship.

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Gail Lynn Hunt** (LP00038766) with unprofessional conduct. Hunt allegedly didn't provide care for a patient who had fallen out of bed, was bleeding, and needed nursing care. She allegedly went on a lunch break and another nurse had to be called in to provide care.

In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Kellie Lee Strauch** (RN00117161) with unprofessional conduct. Strauch allegedly didn't comply with a previous stipulation.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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